

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 IO-10 EUR-12 SSO-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 PC-01 OMB-01 OPR-01

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R 231250Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 477

INFO AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMAKO 4407

EO 11652. GDS

TAGS: PBOR, ML, UV

SUBJ: CONVERSATION WITH YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR

REF: OUAGADOUGOU 2683; SECSTATE 275030

1. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT PECAR IS STILL ACCREDITED TO MALI. BOZIDAR KARADZINOVIC HAS BEEN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES SINCE NOVEMBER 1973. KARADZINOVIC DOES NOT STRIKE US AS BEING TERRIBLY WELL INFORMED ON WHAT IS GOING ON IN MALI.

2. CLEARLY MALIAN MINISTER OF DEFENSE DOUKARA, BY VIRTUE OF HIS POSITION AND ENERGY, PLAYS A CENTRAL ROLE IN ANY MILITARY ACTIVITIES OF GOM. WE DOUBT HOWEVER THAT PRESENT DISPUTE WAS ENGINEERED BY DOUKARA ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE. CMLN SIMPLY DOES NOT WORK THAT WAY. WHILE WE HAVE HEARD RUMORS OF CORRUPTION IN THE CMLN, WE ARE TOTALLY UNABLE TO SUBSTANTIATE THEM AND CERTAINLY THE LIFE STYLE OF DOUKARA AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE WOULD NOT LEND CREDENCE TO THE CHARGE THAT THEY HAVE MADE MILLIONS. DOUKARA'S POSITION IN THE CMLN AS FAR AS WE CAN ASCERTAIN IS VERY SECURE.

3. EQUALLY WE DOUBT THAT FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN BAMAKO, CONFIDENTIAL

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LOUIS DALLIER, IS INTRIGUING WITH DOUKARA. IN FACT,

DALLIER HAS TOLD ME THAT WHILE HE CONSIDERS DOUKARA TO BE EXTREMELY CAPABLE, HE DOES NOT MAINTAIN CLOSE RELATIONS WITH HIM. I MOST CERTAINLY WOULD NOT CHARACTERIZE DALLIER IN SAME TERMS AS DID PECAR, BUT RATHER CONSIDER HIM TO BE AN ACCOMPLISHED PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMAT WITH AN ARABIST BACKGROUND, WHO DOES AN EXTREMELY GOOD JOB OF ADVANCING FRENCH INTERESTS IN MALI. DALLIER IS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE BAMAKO FOR A NEW POST LATE IN JANUARY BUT HE SAYS HE IS AFRAID HE CANNOT GET AWAY BECAUSE PRESIDENT TRAORE HAS ASKED HIM TO STAY ON AND HAS SO FAR REFUSED TO GIVE AGREEMENT TO DALLIER'S SUCCESSOR.

4. INCIDENTALLY, FRENCH AND WEST GERMAN AMBASSADORS AND YUGOSLAV CHARGE HAVE ALL TOLD ME THAT THEIR POSITIONS IN THIS DISPUTE ARE IDENTICAL WITH OURS AS SET FORTH IN STATE 275030.

5. COMMENT: NEITHER WE NOR ANYONE ELSE IN THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN BAMAKO ARE WELL INFORMED IN THE INNER WORKINGS OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE. CONSEQUENTLY REPORTS SUCH AS REFTEL ARE ALWAYS INTERESTING SINCE THEY GIVE US SOME IDEA OF THE SORT OF REPORTING OUR COLLEAGUES ARE DOING.
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